IV. *A Letter from Mr.* James Yonge, *F. R. S. to Dr.* Hans Sloane, *R. S. Secr. containing an Account of an Unusual Blackness of the Face; and of several* Extra-Uterine Fœtus's.

Honoured Sir,

THE Relation I sent *September* 1707. of an hairy Bunch ejected by Urine from a Nephritick Woman, I find did not meet that Regard, and Credit which I think it well deserved. I own that Mr. *Leeuwenhoek*'s Objections seem to have some strength, but cannot shock my Belief at all: For beside a nice Examination, and full Consideration of all Circumstances at first, I am confirm'd in the Assurance I then had, that it came thorough the *Urethra*, was not convey'd, or by any accident dropt into the Pot, by such Evidence *à posteriori*, as are little short of Demonstration: *viz.* That the Tumour which was in the side of her Belly, in which her chief Anguish lay before the Evacuation, vanish'd with it; together with all those other Symptoms, which molested her; *viz.* Strangury, fœtid and purulent Urine, and have not now in two Years made any return.

I have a couple of other Rarities to present (with my humble Duty) to the *R. Society*; one of them is matchless, and to me wholly new. I will relate it very briefly, because being not yet at an end, I expect occasion to give you a further account of it.

A

The Royal Society is collaborating with JSTOR to digitize, preserve, and extend access to *Philosophical Transactions (1683-1775)*. www.jstor.org

' A Girl 16 Years old, a Daughter of *Elizabeth Worth* ' of this Town, had about the end of laſt *April* a few ' hot Pimples riſe on her Cheeks, which Bleeding and a ' Purge or two cured. She continued very well 'till about ' a Month afterward, when her Face, ſo far as is uſual- ' ly covered with a Vizard-mask, ſuddenly turned black ' like that of a *Negro*. This ſurprizing Accident much ' amaz'd and frighted the Girl: eſpecially after ſome ' fooliſh People perſuaded her ſhe was bewitch'd, and ' never to be cured: By Prayers, Exorciſms, and other ' Incantations they endeavoured to relieve and take off ' the Faſcination; which proving ineffectual, the Paſſion ' and Terror of Mind encreaſed to a great degree, ' even to Diſtraction, and then they demanded my Aſ- ' ſtance.

By the Arguments I uſed, and ſome compoſing Anti-hyſterical Remedies, the Violence of her Fits became much pacified. I alſo directed a Lotion for her Face, which took off the Diſcoloration, but it returned frequently, but with no regularity, ſometimes twice or thrice in Twenty Four Hours, ſometimes five or ſix times. It appears inſenſibly to the Girl, without Pain, Sickneſs, or any Symptoms of its approach, except a little warm Fluſhing juſt before it appears. It eaſily comes away, and leaves the Skin clear, and white, but ſmuts the Cloth that wipes it from the Face; it feels Unctious, and ſeems like Greaſe, and Soot, or Blacking mixt. It hath no Taſt at all, which is to me very ſtrange, that a fuliginous Exſudation ſhould be inſipid.

She never had the *Menſes*; is thin, but healthful; the Blackneſs appears no where but in the prominent part of her Face. There are a thouſand Eye-witneſſes to the truth of this Wonder; but I am not able to find, or

conjecture the cauſed of it, nor have I ever heard of the like. I ſhall be glad to know your Opinion, and ready to make ſuch further Enquiries as you ſhall pleaſe to ſend, in order to diſcover the cauſe of this dark and ſtrange *Phænomenon*.

The *ſecond* Rarity I am to impart is extraordinary, but not wholly new, and ſolitary, as the firſt is, having been obſerved by ſome the laſt Century. It was communicated to me by a very Learned Divine of this Country, in theſe Words ——— ; ‘ I ſend this to acquaint you with a ſtrange Occurrence obſerved here laſt Week: A Gentleman's Servant having kill'd an *Ewe*, which was thought fat, and taken out the Bowels, found a very unuſual and monſtrous lump of Fat, proceeding like a Wen from the middle of the *Omentum*. I was call'd to ſee this Wonder; and having cut it open, found incloſed a Lamb of the ſame Parts, Feature, and Dimenſions with others of that kind. How it came there? And how nouriſhed? are Queſtions I would have reſolved.

I ſoon apprehended what it was that ſeem'd ſo very ſtrange and unaccountable to my Friend, having thirty Years ſince been ſhewn the like, found in a Bitch, by an expert and ingenious Surgeon in *Oxford*; and from that time obſerved, and conſidered all of that Nature which have occured to me in Books, or otherwiſe; and ſo was ready to tell that Learned, and curious Gentleman, that that Lamb was not conceived in the Womb, but in one of the *Fallopian Tubes*; wherein growing too big to be contained, it either broke out into the place where it was found, or ſlipt back toward the upper Orifice, and thorough it into the Belly: That afterward aſſiſted by the prone and inclining Poſture of the Sheep's Body, it ſlipt for-

forward to the *Omentum*, and was there nouriſhed the uſual way, *viz.* by the *Placenta*, which was doubtleſs fixed in the *Tube*, and the *Pedunculus* being kept whole, will eaſily extend from thence to the *Fœtus*, where it lay.

Had this Sheep been nicely diſſected by a skilful Hand, I verily believe we ſhould have found my Opinion true in fact. *Riolan* Jun. *Anthropog. Nov.* lib. 2. c. 34. was the firſt that publickly obſerved theſe ſtrange Conceptions; and he tells us they have the Coats, Secundine, *&c.* of ſuch *Fœtus*'s as are ingendred within the Womb. And conſidering the late Anatomical Diſcoveries, and new Hypotheſis of the genital Parts in Women, and their uſes in Generation, made by *Theod. Kirkringius*, *Reg. de Graaf*, and others; it ſeems more than probable, that ſuch Conceptions as we are ſpeaking of, happen when in Coition one of the Eggs deſcends into the Tube; and being unable to paſs into the *Uterus* thorough the lower Orifice (which is ſometimes, and in aged People always, contracted;) and being however impregnated by the *Aura Seminalis*, or **Animalcula*, wherewith the Teſticles and ſeminal Parts of ſome Males do ſo prodigiouſly and incredibly abound; it there grows 'till too big to be contained, and then breaks forth into the Belly: Though ſometimes, as I ſhall ſhew by a memorable Inſtance, they continue in the Tube it ſelf. There the *Placenta* fixes, and ſucks Nouriſhment as from the *Fundus Uteri*; and if the *Pedunculus* holds together, conveys it to the *Fœtus*, as it doth to thoſe in the natural Place of Breeding.

I have perhaps with too much freedom and too little exactneſs laid before you my Notions, and the

* *Mr.* Leeuenhoek *ſaith, the Milt of a Codfiſh hath more* Animalcula, *than there are People on the Earth.* *Dr.* Hook. Phil. Coll. *No.* 1.

Idea I have of this Matter; but 'tis with humble Submiſſion to your Cenſure and Correction: Craving leave to amplify a little on this ſubject, By reciting what of the kind hath been by ſeveral others diſcover'd, and conſidered.

Such *Extra-uterine Embryo's* have been ſometimes found in Women; but not publickly taken notice of 'till the beginning of the laſt Century, by the younger *Riolan. ut ſupra*, with this Remark: (Speaking of the *Fallopian* Tubes) They appear, ſaith he, of the ſame Nature and Subſtance as the Womb, *Quia carnoſæ eſt, in qua, quod eſt mirabile, fœtum Humanum concipi fuit obſervatum.* Then gives an account of four ſuch ſtrange Conceptions, which occured to his Knowledge.

Since which time, more marvelous ones have happen'd in that Country; two of them much amuſed the Curious every where. One was found at *Paris*, *January* 1669. by Mr. *B. Veſal*, in the right Tube of a Woman. It was four Months old, and ſo grown, and the Tube ſo diſtended, as made him miſtake it for another Womb, and accordingly to call the Account he publiſhed thereof, *Demonſtration d'une double Matrice.* Mr. *Oldenburgh* put an Extract of it into the *Philoſophical Tranſactions*, No. 48. and the *German Academy*, Vol. 1. Obſ. 110. did the like: But neither ſeem'd to underſtand the Myſtery, 'till *de Graeff* took it right, and made uſe of this very Obſervation to illuſtrate and confirm the Hypotheſis of *Kirkringius*. And ſoon after *Elſholtius*, a learned *German*, did the ſame in a little but curious Tract, *De conceptione Tubaria, qua Humani Fœtus extra Uteri cavitatem in tubis quandoque concipiuntur.* He recites the Story as from Mr. *Veſal*, and gives the Figure of the ſuppoſed two Wombs and the *Fœtus* in the diſtended Tube; and among other ſuch Conceptions, mentions two large *Mola's* found without the *Matrix* of one Woman.

About

About Ten Years afterward a much more wonderful, and incredible one happen'd there, which puzzled the Philoſophers to apprehend, or believe. It comes very well atteſted by Mr. *Bayle*, who firſt publiſhed an Hiſtory of it in the *Journal des Scavans*, A. D. 1678. Soon after *M. Nic. Blegny* did the ſame in a particular Tract with Figures, which I have by me: And afterward Mr. *Oldenburgh* put an Extract of it into the *Philoſophical Tranſactions*, No. 139.

'A Woman, *A. D.* 1652. came to her full time of 'bearing, but altho' ſhe had all the Symptoms uſual 'at that ſeaſon, no Child came. She continued in that 'Condition twenty Years, ſtill feeling the Child within 'her. From that time ſhe felt not any motion it had. 'In *June* 1708. ſhe died, and the next day was opened. 'In her Belly, without the Womb, a dead Child was 'found lapt up in the *Omentum*: It weigh'd Eight pounds; 'and altho' it was kept in that hot Seaſon three Days 'out of the Mother's Belly, it did not ſtink. Mr. *Blegny* was curious to Inſpect, and give a particular Account of this wonderful thing to the World, not only in the Tract above-mentioned, but alſo in the firſt Volume of his *Zodiacus Medicus*, *Obſ.* 9. with very remarkable, and learned Animadverſions.

Before either of theſe appeared in *France*, there happen'd one in *Holland* to *H. Rhoonhuys*. 'A 'Woman with Child, at her full time, was four Days 'in Labour, and although ſhe had ſo many Midwives, 'could not be Deliver'd. Our Author was called, *De-* 'cember 1658. found the *Internum Uteri Oſculum* cloſe 'ſhut: Without Flowings, or other Fore-runners of 'Delivery. He finding the common Paſſage ſo cloſely 'ſhut up, and a very painful Tumour above the Navel,

'pro-

propoſed the *Cæſarean* Section. The Woman having ſeen that dreadful Operation made at *Paris*, earneſtly deſired him to perform it on her. But he, to obſerve ſome unneceſſary Forms, delay'd it 'till the Woman was paſt Life: Who he believes might with the Child have been preſerved, if the Operation had been done when he firſt ſaw her.

Opening the Belly after death, he found a Child amidſt the Intrals; and, as he ſaith, the *Placenta* faſtned to the *Colon*, and part to the *Fundus Uteri*; and that there was a Breach in the Womb capacious enough for the Infant to paſs thorough it into the Belly; and that Wound he thinks was made by a blow, altho' it hurt not the external Parts, nor made Impreſſions on the tender *Embryo*. I can't approve, nor will I cenſure the many things in his Report liable to exception, and which Criticks will be apt to think abſurd. I preſume to believe he miſtook the extended Tube for a *Matrix*, as *Veſal* did. *Erranti nullus termimus.*

A much more famous, and learned Man than he, (*T. Bartholinus*,) did the Year after *Rhoonhuyſe's Exploration*, meet ſuch an extraneous *Fœtus* lapt up in a *Mola*, which he found in the Belly of a Woman; and thus conjectures —— *Non poſſum aliud divinare, quam quod fœtus hic primo fuerit in Tubis uteri conceptus.* He imparted this Story firſt to *G. Horſtius*, *Ep.* 58. *Vol.* 4. Afterward to the whole World, in the 92*d* Obſervation of his *ſixth Century.*

A. D. 1662. In the City of *Aurange*, *D. Baldwin*, and Mr. *De la fort* found —— *Puellum Egregium, optime formatum extra uterum.* The report of this Diſcovery is made publick by the famous *Sachs*, with very learned Remarks. *Miſcell. Cur. Vol.* 1. *Obſ.* 110. which he concludes

cludes (as I ſhall) with one more ſtupendious than all I have cited, which he had from the *Sileſia* Chronicle, written long ſince by *N. Polinus*, and thus relates it. ‘*A. D.* ‘1581. A Woman that had born Ten Children in ‘Fifteen Years Matrimony, conceiv'd again, and at the ‘full time was deliver'd through an Abſceſs of the left ‘*Hypocondria.* — *Ex qua infans boni habitus extractus, qui* ‘*Baptizatus fuit, & annum unum cum demidio ſupervixit*; ‘*Mater vero, ſummis in doloribus tertio die obiit.*

Sir, I humbly beg your Opinion of theſe Reports, and my Notions; that if I am skilful or lucky enough to meet your Concurrence and Approbation, I may accordingly value my ſelf, or be better informed.

Plimouth, Auguſt 16.
1709.

James Yonge.